

Course discipline/number/title: ENGL 1121: Mythology and Ancient Legend

A. CATALOG DESCRIPTION

1. Credits: 3
2. Hours/Week: 3
3. Prerequisites (Course discipline/number): Appropriate score on RCTC placement test or completion of appropriate developmental course with grade of C or better; or permission of instructor.
4. MnTC Goals (if any): Goal 6/Humanities - the Arts, Literature and Philosophy, Goal 8/Global Perspectives

This course is a study of the more important myths of classical literature with reference to the major archetypal patterns, as related to ways in which these have been transformed by various artists and authors.

B. DATE LAST REVISED (Month, year): March, 2013

C. OUTLINE OF MAJOR CONTENT AREAS:

Students will explore the nature of myth including the importance of the supernatural, the symbology of myths and dreams, and the characteristics of oral tradition. They will differentiate Greek, Roman, and Near Eastern mythologies. As they interpret myths, they will use externalist (myth as a product of environment) and psychological (myth as a product of the mind) theories. Specific classical texts will be the subjects of study, the application of archetypes in the analysis of those texts will provide students practice using theories.

Areas to be studied include:

1. Olympians
2. Major classical deities
3. The realm of the underworld
4. The hero
5. The Trojan War
6. The Odyssey
7. Ancient writers (following is a suggested list)
 - a) Hesiod
 - b) Sophocles
 - c) Euripides
 - d) Plato
 - e) Virgil
 - f) Ovid
 - g) Homer
8. The influence of classical myth in subsequent cultures and forms

D. LEARNING OUTCOMES (GENERAL): The student will be able to:

1. Demonstrate understanding of classical and near Eastern myths.
2. Demonstrate an awareness of how ancient myth is used in literature, art, and music.
3. Understand and appreciate the literature, art, and music influenced by ancient myth.
4. Demonstrate knowledge and understanding of the different ways myth can be interpreted and the different purposes myth served.
5. Analyze particular myths according to the different approaches to myth and communicate those interpretations effectively in writing.

E. LEARNING OUTCOMES (MNTC):

Goal 6/The Humanities-the Arts, Literature, and Philosophy: The student will be able to:

1. Demonstrate awareness of the scope and variety of works in the arts and humanities.
2. Understand those works as expressions of individual and human values within a historical and social context.
3. Respond critically to works in the arts and humanities.
4. Articulate an informed personal reaction to works in the arts and humanities.

- E. LEARNING OUTCOMES (MNTC): Continued. . .
Goal 8/Global Perspectives: The student will be able to:
1. Describe and analyze political, economic, and cultural elements, which influence relations of states and societies in their historical and contemporary dimensions.
 2. Demonstrate knowledge of cultural, social, religious and linguistic differences.
 3. Analyze specific international problems, illustrating the cultural, economic, and political differences that affect their solution.
- F. METHODS FOR EVALUATION OF STUDENT LEARNING:
May include any or all of the following:
1. Objective Exams
 2. Essay exams
 3. Research papers/projects
 4. Written homework
 5. Small group discussion/projects
 6. Presentations
 7. Oral presentations
 8. Or any other as deemed appropriate by the instructor
- G. RCTC CORE OUTCOME(S) ADDRESSED:
- Critical Thinking. Students will think systematically and explore information thoroughly before accepting or formulating a position or conclusion.
- Global Awareness and Diversity. Students will demonstrate an understanding of and respect for human diversity through their words and actions.
- H. SPECIAL INFORMATION (if any): None